

BRANDENBURG TELEPHONE COMPANY

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March 7, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554
Attn: Wireline Competition Bureau

**RE: WC Docket No. 10-90
Rural Broadband Experiment Expression of Interest – Rate-of Return Areas
Brandenburg Telephone Company, Inc.**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Brandenburg Telephone Company, Inc. hereby expresses interest in participating in the Commission's rural broadband experiments to provide robust, scalable high-speed broadband to unserved and underserved high-cost areas with additional Connect America funding.¹ Brandenburg Telephone Company, Inc. is a rate-of-return incumbent local exchange carrier serving rural areas of Kentucky.

Brandenburg Telephone Company, Inc. has a mix of Fiber-to-the-Home and DSL facilities providing broadband to its customers throughout its service area. Although over 100% of all locations within the regulated service area have speeds available of at least 3Mbps/768 kbps today, some of the DSL and copper facilities are aging which may cause achieved speeds to degrade and will not support higher speeds expected by customers today. Funds are needed to replace the older DSL and copper that are at the end of life so that Brandenburg Telephone Company, Inc. can meet customer demands for scalable high-speed broadband, provide these customers access to their community anchor institutions, and transition to an all -IP network for these 2,496 premises. The details of the proposed deployment are as follows:

Proposed Service Area

Brandenburg Telephone Company, Inc. proposes to upgrade broadband to 2,496 premises within the regulated service territory in the Irvington and Custer sections of Breckinridge County, Kentucky, census blocks of 21027-9601.00 and 21027-9605.02.

¹See *Technology Transitions et al.*, GN Docket No. 13-5 et al., Order, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Report and Order, Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Proposal for Ongoing Data Initiative, FCC 14-5 (rel. Jan. 31, 2014).

Proposed Broadband Service

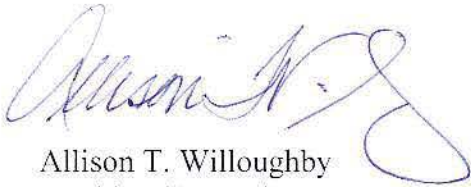
Voice and Broadband services with broadband transmission speeds of 1 Gbps downstream and 1 Gbps upstream provided over the Fiber-to-the-Home plant funded by this request.

Funding

Brandenburg Telephone Company, Inc. requests \$12,480,000.00 in funding from Connect America Funds in one-time funding and expects service to be upgraded at all 2,496 premises within one year after construction starts.

Brandenburg Telephone Company, Inc. appreciates the opportunity to provide this non-binding expression of interest. Please contact the undersigned with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Allison T. Willoughby", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Allison T. Willoughby
President/General Manager